

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Tohru NATSUME et al.  
Title: BIOPOLYMER AUTOMATIC IDENTIFYING  
METHOD  
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP03/11298  
Int'l. Filing Date: 09/04/2003  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Art Unit: Unassigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form 1449B/PTO is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Any document listed on the attached 1449B/PTO was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding International application. A copy of the International Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. An English-language counterpart of the foreign-language documents has not been provided. The absence of a translation or an English-language counterpart document does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider any submitted document (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form 1449B/PTO be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 3 March 2005

By S. A. Bent

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0101 REC'd PCT/PT 03 MAR 2005

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  Date Submitted: March 3, 2005 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2" style="text-align: left; padding: 2px;">Complete if Known</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;">Application Number</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Unassigned 01526464</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Filing Date</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">First Named Inventor</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Tohru NATSUME</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Group Art Unit</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Examiner Name</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Unassigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Attorney Docket Number</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">081356-0235</td> </tr> </table>	Complete if Known		Application Number	Unassigned 01526464	Filing Date	Unassigned	First Named Inventor	Tohru NATSUME	Group Art Unit	Unassigned	Examiner Name	Unassigned	Attorney Docket Number	081356-0235
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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	A1		JP 10-132786 A		Shimadzu Corp.	5/22/1998		

**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>6</sup>
	A2	International Search Report of PCT/JP03/11298.	
	A3	V. EGELHOFER et al., "Improvements in Protein Identification by MALDI-TOF-MS Peptide Mapping", Analytical Chemistry, July 1, 2000, Vol. 72, No. 13, pgs. 2741 to 2750.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.